

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough search and examination of the present patent application. Applicant further appreciates the Examiner indicating that the drawings filed on October 8, 2003 are acceptable for examination.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 18 have been amended to define applicant's invention. The changes to these claims make explicit that which applicant believed to be already implicit and do not alter or otherwise narrow the scope of protection defined by the claims.

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 on the grounds that the claims are directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the claims are not directed towards a final result that is "useful, tangible and concrete." Applicant traverses this rejection.

Independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended to include "electronically processing and organizing pharmacy data." Claims 1 and 9, as amended, further include "assembling," "communicating" and "checking" an "electronic batch file" that comprises a "header, at least one pharmacy record and a trailer." Further, records are transferred "electronically" to various data sources, including a "holding database" to a "data warehouse."

While applicant believes that claims 1 and 9 in their original form were directed to statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101, applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claims 1 and 9 effectively overcomes the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101. Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 are allowable.

Dependent claims 2-22 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1 or claim 9, respectively, and are, therefore, allowable for the same reasons as well as because of combination of features in those claims with the features set forth in the claim(s) from which they depend.

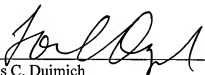
In the Office Action, the Examiner requests applicant to include in applicant's claimed limitations a practical application, a result, and a final result that is concrete, useful and tangible. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-22 define, as a practical application, a method that checks for errors and ensures the validity of pharmacy data. The result provided by the method defined by the claims is that the pharmacy data are verified and, accurate, transferred for storage. In case errors are discovered, records are "quarantined" and entries are made in an "exception table." The concrete, useful and tangible result is that data integrity is verified, and that patients

who consume potentially dangerous medications are far less likely to suffer ill-effects associated with errors in processing and organizing pharmacy data.

Accordingly and in view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, allow the claims as amended and pass this case to issue.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY
THROUGH THE PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS FILING
SYSTEM ON August 1, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



Louis C. Dujmich
Registration No.: 30,625
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-8403
Telephone: (212) 382-0700

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